CITY OF LAWRENCEVILLE, ILLINOIS
SEPTEMBER 10, 2026
MINUTES

The Council of the City of Lawrenceville, Lawrence County, Illinois met in regular session in the City Council Chambers of the City Hall Building on Thursday, September, 10, 2026 at the hour of 7 p.m. The following Aldermen were present on roll call: Fritch, Volkman, Dunn, Hedge, Brewer, Waldrop. Absent: Goins, Greene.

Mayor Courtney called the meeting to order. Waldrop gave the prayer. All present then recited the Pledge of Allegiance while facing the flag. Louie Campbell and David White requested to speak to the Council.

The Council earlier received copies of the minutes of the regular Council meeting of August 13, 2026. Mayor Courtney asked for questions or comments. Hedge made a motion to approve the minutes. Brewer seconded. Motion passed on a voice vote.

The Council earlier received copies of the bills of the Sewer and Water Departments for August, 2026. Mayor Courtney asked for questions or comments. Waldrop motioned to approve paying the bills for July, 2026. Brewer seconded. Motion passed on a roll-call vote, 8-0. Yeas: Brewer, Dunn, Fritch, Hedge, Volkman, Waldrop. Absent: Goins, Greene. Nays: None.

Campbell spoke about transparency and accountability, areas of concern mentioned in the U.S. EPA report on the wastewater plant and asked why Utilities Superintendent Aaron Tipsword was still employed by the City.

White mentioned the closing of the Lawrence County Jail and the resulting cost with the Lawrenceville Police Department. He also asked the taxing bodies to be good stewards with public money.

Treasurer White looked into ownership of the former counseling center at 15th and Olive streets and noticed the City's use of CDs to pay for bills. He said the City Clerk might be overloaded with his duties.

A question over a special use permit with Connexus wasn't addressed because Thomas Quick of the utility didn't attend the meeting.

Mitch Hardiek of Milano-Grunloh Engineers said the City's attempt to land a fully-funded sidewalk project was close to the cutoff imposed by the State in 2024. He felt public involvement could help the City secure approval in this year's grant application. The Mayor called a special meeting for Thursday, Sept. 14, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers to discuss the project. The public is encouraged to attend. Civic participation is critical to move this project forward, he said.

The Mayor reported two bids were presented to the City for the 16th Street water line project. The lowest of the two came from Kieffer Brothers for $925,048.99. Brewer motioned to accept the bid. Dunn seconded. The motion passed on a roll-call vote, 6-0-2. Yeas: Waldrop, Volkman, Hedge, Fritch, Dunn, Brewer. Nays: None. Absent: Goins, Greene.

Tipsword said roughly 70 precent of Zone 1 has been smoke tested, and he will work with the Street Department to handle issues with storm sewer infiltration. The jet vac truck purchased this

summer is used daily, and Tipsword read a letter from Water Solutions Unlimited concerning an empty drum of sodium permanganate for a potassium permanganate cleanup project.

The Mayor asked for a vote to extend the contract with Republic Services, the trash contractor. Republic is willing to keep the terms the same, asking for 3 percent raise each year. Dunn motioned for the Mayor to draw up the ordinance. Brewer seconded. It passed on a voice vote.

The Mayor also said there is still work to complete on water and sewer rates with an ordinance in the planning stages.

Waldrop said the Finance Committee would have a recommendation during the October meeting of the City Council concerning the use of time clocks to track employee hours.

Chief White said officers are still transporting arrested individuals to Olney for booking and incarceration. From White's knowledge, there are no services at the Lawrence County Jail.

Trick or treating is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 31, 2026 from 5 to 8 p.m., White said.

McDonald, the cemetery/parks superintendent, said it's imperative to hire high school part-time workers each summer to keep up with cutting grass and trimming weeds.

Volkman said he would settle his lawsuit against the City of Lawrenceville if the City would pay his attorney fees. If so, Volkman would donate a portion of the money towards equipment used for livestreaming the Council meetings and electronic timekeeping if the council approved those things by 01/01/2027.

Brewer spoke with Volkman about his desire for time clocks.

Brewer motioned to adjourn. Hedge seconded. It passed on a voice vote.

Time: 8:39 p.m.

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Rodney Nolan, City Clerk